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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/215,752 12/18/98 NUXOLL

A AT9-98-464

EXAMINER

TM02/1214

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COLLEGE NAV TITLE

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2151
DATE MAILED:

12/14/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/215,752

Applicant(s)
Nuxoll et al.

Examiner
St. John Courtenay III

Group Art Unit
2151



☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Sep 25, 2000

☒ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 4-7, 10-14, 16, 18-20, 22, and 24-47 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 4-7, 10-14, 16, 18-20, 22, and 24-47 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____.

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

Response to Amendment

Applicant's remarks have been considered, but are deemed to be moot in view of the new grounds of rejection necessitated by Applicant's amendments to the claims.

Claim 34 is objected to because claim 34 depends upon itself. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. § 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 10, 13, 14, 16, 18-20, 22, 24-35, 37, 40, 42, 46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Maruyama et al. (U.S. Patent 5,710,920).

As per independent claims 1, 13, 19, 42:

Maruyama teaches a method in a software component for processing a data object in a data processing system, the method comprising the computer-implemented steps of:

- sending a query for a meta definition of a data object [e.g., step 1001, fig. 13, col. 9, lines 37- 45],
- receiving the meta definition of the data object [e.g., col. 9, line 45].
- identifying object attributes in the meta definition [e.g., col. 9, lines 45-64] , line].
- prompting a user to input data values corresponding to the object attributes [e.g., col. 9, line 38].

As per independent claims 7, 16, 22, 35, 46:

Maruyama teaches a method in a software component for processing a data object in a data processing system, the method comprising the computer-implemented steps of:

- receiving a data value stream [e.g., col. 9, also figs. 12 & 13].
- sending a query for a meta definition of a data object [e.g., step 1001, fig. 13, col. 9, lines 37- 45],
- receiving the meta definition of the data object [e.g., col. 9, line 45].
- mapping data values to a data structure according to the attributes in the meta definition of the data object [e.g., col. 9, lines 45- 64].

As per claims 2, 14, 20, 37:

Maruyama teaches determining an object type of a data object, before querying for a meta definition for the data object [e.g., col. 3, see discussion beginning line 11, meta definition discussion begins line 61].

As per claims 5, 40:

Maruyama teaches the query for the meta definition for the data object is sent to a Meta Data Service [e.g., step 1001, fig. 13, col. 9, lines 37- 45, col. 3].

As per claims 18, 24:

Maruyama teaches at least one object attribute in the meta definition of the data object [e.g., col. 3, discussion beginning line 11, col. 5, see discussion beginning line 4].

As per claim 10:

Maruyama teaches the software component is a Meta Data Service. [e.g., see discussion columns 3 & 4].

As per claim 26:

Maruyama teaches the step of prompting the user for data values comprises: matching the meta definition to graphical user interface fields; and presenting the graphical user interface fields to the user [e.g., col. 7, lines 60-65, col. 9, line 5, line 39].

As per claims 27, 28, 32, 33:

Maruyama teaches the data structure is a database and transferring the data values to the data structure. [fig. 1, database 107].

As per claims 29, 34:

Maruyama teaches the database is a relational database [e.g., col. 3, lines 5-7].

As per claims 25, 30:

Maruyama teaches means for receiving inputted data values corresponding to the object attributes from the user; and means for sending a data value stream including the inputted data values to a server [e.g., col. 7, lines 60-65, col. 9, line 5, line 39].

As per claim 31:

Maruyama teaches the prompting means comprises: means for matching the meta definition to graphical user interface fields; and means for presenting the graphical user interface fields to the user [e.g., col. 7, lines 60-65, col. 9, line 5, line 39].

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. § 103 which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Subject matter developed by another person, which qualifies as prior art only under subsection (f) or (g) of section 102 of this title, shall not preclude patentability under this section where the subject matter and the claimed invention were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.

Claims 6 & 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Maruyama et al. (U.S. Patent 5,710,920) in view of well known prior art.

As per claims 6, 41:

Maruyama discloses the invention substantially as claimed, as discussed above.

However, **Maruyama** does not *explicitly* teach the use of a cache.

“Official Notice” is taken that the use of caches is well known in the art [M.P.E.P. 2144.03].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to improve upon the system taught by **Maruyama** by implementing the improvements detailed above because it would provide **Maruyama's** system with the enhanced capability of improving performance.

Claims are 36, 43, & 47 rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Maruyama et al. (U.S. Patent 5,710,920) in view of well known prior art.

As per claims 36, 43, 47:

Maruyama discloses the invention substantially as claimed, as discussed above.

However, **Maruyama** does not *explicitly* teach the use of Persistent Objects and associated services.

“Official Notice” is taken that the use of persistent objects and associated services is well known in the art [M.P.E.P. 2144.03].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to improve upon the system taught by **Maruyama** by implementing the improvements detailed above because it would provide **Maruyama's** system with the enhanced capability of persistent data storage.

Claims 4, 11, 12, 38, 39, 44, & 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Maruyama et al. (U.S. Patent 5,710,920) in view of well known prior art.

As per claims 4, 11, 12, 38, 39, 44, 45:

Maruyama discloses the invention substantially as claimed, as discussed above.

However, **Maruyama** does not *explicitly* teach the use of clients and servers. **Maruyama** does teach the use of multiple computers in an object database system [e.g., col. 6, lines 23, 61]

“Official Notice” is taken that the use of clients and servers is notoriously well known in the art [M.P.E.P. 2144.03].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to improve upon the system taught by **Maruyama** by implementing the improvements detailed above because it would provide a distributed object database system.

As per claim 12:

See the rejection of claim 6.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new grounds of rejection. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See M.P.E.P. § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE TO THIS FINAL ACTION IS SET TO EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS ACTION. IN THE EVENT A FIRST RESPONSE IS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE MAILING DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION AND THE ADVISORY ACTION IS NOT MAILED UNTIL AFTER THE END OF THE THREE-MONTH SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD, THEN THE SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD WILL EXPIRE ON THE DATE THE ADVISORY ACTION IS MAILED, AND ANY EXTENSION FEE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) WILL BE CALCULATED FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THE ADVISORY ACTION. IN NO EVENT WILL THE STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE EXPIRE LATER THAN SIX MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION.

How to Contact the Examiner:

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to **St. John Courtenay III** whose voice telephone number is **(703) 308-5217**. A voice mail service is also available at this number.

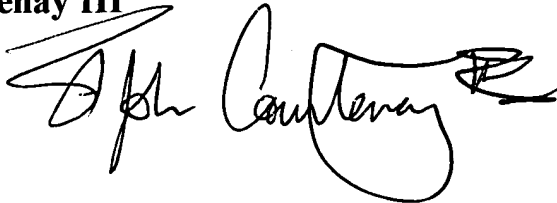
- **All responses sent by U.S. Mail should be mailed to:**
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231
- **Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park Two, 2021 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).** All hand-delivered responses will be handled and entered by the docketing personnel. Please do not hand deliver responses directly to the Examiner.

All FORMAL or OFFICIAL faxes must be signed and sent to either (703) 308-9051 or (703) 308-9052.

OFFICIAL faxes will be handled and entered by the docketing personnel. The date of entry will correspond to the actual FAX reception date unless that date is a Saturday, Sunday, or a Federal Holiday within the District of Columbia, in which case the official date of receipt will be the next business day. The application file will be promptly forwarded to the Examiner unless the application file must be sent to another area of the Office, e.g., Finance Division for fee charging, etc.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is **(703) 305-9600**.

Examiner St. John Courtenay III

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "St. John Courtenay III", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Art Unit 2151

Tuesday, December 12, 2000